



# NEWS RELEASE

## NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE

United States Department of Agriculture • Washington, DC 20250

South Carolina Field Office • Columbia, SC 29201

Ag Statistics Hotline: 1-800-727-9540 • [www.usda.gov/nass/](http://www.usda.gov/nass/)



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Contact: Rhonda Brandt, Director (803)765-5333

Stan Cheek, Agricultural Statistician

[nass-sc@nass.usda.gov](mailto:nass-sc@nass.usda.gov)

### SOUTH CAROLINA EGG PRODUCTION DOWN

SOUTH CAROLINA'S laying flocks produced 95 million eggs during April, down 9 percent from last year, according to the USDA-NASS, South Carolina Field Office. Production totaled 73 million table eggs and 22 million hatching eggs. The number of layers averaged 4,851,000 birds, down 5 percent from 5,103,000 a year ago. April egg production per 100 layers was 1,958 eggs, compared with 2,038 in 2006.

UNITED STATES egg production totaled 7.43 billion during April 2007, down 1 percent from last year. Production included 6.34 billion table eggs, and 1.09 billion hatching eggs, of which 1.03 billion were broiler-type and 66 million were egg-type. The total number of layers during April 2007 averaged 344 million, down 1 percent from last year. April egg production per 100 layers was 2,162 eggs, down slightly from April 2006.

### SOUTH CAROLINA BROILER HATCHERY PRODUCTION INCREASES

During the month of March, SOUTH CAROLINA'S broiler hatcheries produced 18.8 million chicks, up 3 percent from last year's 18.3 million chicks.

The UNITED STATES broiler-type chicks hatched during April 2007 totaled 801 million, up 2 percent from April 2006. Eggs in incubators totaled 680 million on May 1, 2007 up 3 percent from a year earlier.